

**“My thoughts and prayers, along with those of all Americans, go out to my colleague and friend Congresswoman Gabrielle (Gabby) Giffords and the other victims who were part of today’s tragic attack. Gabby and I have worked together on numerous issues since she came to Congress. She is bright, passionate, and cares deeply about her district and our country. For her husband Mark, my friend and veteran space shuttle commander, we are praying for you and your family.**

**"Senseless acts of violence like this have no place in our country. An attack on an elected official communicating and meeting with her constituents is an assault on our freedoms and democratic process. The individual responsible for this cowardly attack should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law."**